

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 /089 W  
-----018084 050255Z /62  
R 050146Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7126  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM, SOCI, CB  
SUBJECT: REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN DEMOCRATIC  
KAMPUCHEA

REF: (A) STATE 157953 (B) BANGKOK 17849 (C) BANGKOK 18288

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING IS INTERVIEW OF CAMBODIAN REFUGEE  
SOURCE R, NAME: SEN CHUL. (NAME MAY BE USED IN SUG DOCUMEN-  
TATION FOR UNHRC.) INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED AT PRASAT, SURIN,  
JUNE 16, 1978.
  2. SEN CHUL, 27, CAME FROM KOUKMON VILLAGE, AMPIL DISTRICT,  
ODDAR MEANCHAY PROVINCE. HE STUDIED ELEVEN YEARS AND ATTENDED  
COLLEGE AT SAMRAONG ONE YEAR, WHERE HE RECEIVED A DIPLOMA.  
HE WAS IN SAMRAONG WHEN THE KHMER ROUGE TOOK OVER AND  
SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED HOME TO KOUKMON. AFTER THE TAKEOVER,  
THE KHMER ROUGE HELD MASS MEETINGS IN WHICH EVERYONE WAS TOLD  
TO IDENTIFY HIMSELF. CHUL ADMITTED THAT HE WAS A STUDENT.  
CHUL ARRIVED IN THAILAND IN FEBRUARY, 1978.
  3. CONDITIONS OF LIVING IN DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA  
QTE LIFE WAS BETTER IN LOUKMON THAN IN OTHER PLACES. IN
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THE MOBILE YOUTH GROUP IN WHICH I WORKED, WE HAD ENOUGH  
TO EAT. WE HAD PLENTY OF RICE BUT NO FISH OR MEAT. IN  
THE VILLAGE, WHERE MY FAMILY LIVED, AND I LIVED WITH MY  
WIFE AFTER WE GOT MARRIED, FOOD WAS ALSO ADEQUATE BUT  
LIMITED TO RICE. THE CROP WAS BETTER THIS YEAR THAN LAST  
YEAR WHEN WE HAD A DROUGHT.

4. QTE WE WERE ISSUED ONE SET OF CLOTHES WHEN WE COULD NO LONGER MEND THE ONES WE HAD BEEN WEARING. FOR THOSE WHO WORKED HARD, THE CLOTHES WORE OUT IN ABOUT FOUR MONTHS. TO GET A NEW SET, YOU HAD TO PRESENT CONCRETE EVIDENCE THAT YOUR PRESENT ONES WERE WORN OUT. THIS WAS EASY SINCE THEY WERE USUALLY RAGS. WE GOT ONE SCARF AND A SET OF BLACK PAJAMAS.

5. QTE WE WORKED FROM 0400 TO 1100, 1300 TO 1700 AND 1900 TO 2200 EACH DAY SINCE 1975.

6. QTE I WAS WITH THE MOBILE YOUTH UNTIL 1976 WHEN I GOT MARRIED. AFTER THAT I MOVED TO THE VILLAGE AND WORKED AS A FARMER. ONCE OR TWICE A YEAR, WE HAD A "MATING PERIOD." FOR TWO DAYS, WHILE ALSO WORKING, YOUNG MEN AND YOUNG WOMEN WERE ALLOWED TO TALK WITH EACH OTHER. EXCEPT DURING THE MATING PERIOD, YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WERE NOT ALLOWED TO TALK WITH EACH OTHER, DAY OR NIGHT, EXCEPT FOR TALK ABOUT DEVELOPING THE COUNTRY. IF THE KHMER ROUGE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE VIOLATED THIS "ETHICS CODE" YOU WOULD BOTH BE EXECUTED IMMEDIATELY. I KNEW OF ABOUT TWENTY YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN CAUGHT FLIRTING, WHO WERE EXECUTED. NO ROMANTIC CHIT-CHAT IS ALLOWED. AFTER THE TWO DAY MATING PERIOD, YOU REPORT TO THE AUTHORITIES THAT YOU HAVE FOUND A SUITABLE PARTNER. ASIDE FROM THE MATING PERIOD, YOU CANNOT TELL A GIRL THAT YOU LIKE HER. YOU LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MUST GO TO THE VILLAGE CHIEF AND TELL HIM. IF YOU TELL HER DIRECTLY, YOU WILL BE KILLED. IN EITHER CASE, IF THE CHIEF AGREES, YOU MUST WAIT UNTIL THE MASS MARRIAGES ARE HELD ABOUT EVERY SIX MONTHS AT THE SAME TIME AS THE MATING SEASON.

7. QTE GIRLS HAVE NO RIGHT TO REFUSE. EVEN IF THE MAN IS CRIPPLED, HAD ONE HAND, OR IS UGLY, THE GIRL MUST ACCEPT. SHE IS SUMMONED AND TOLD THAT SHE MUST MARRY. IF SHE REFUSES, SHE WILL BE EXECUTED. IN SOME CASES, SHE AND HER FAMILY ARE TOLD THAT THEY MUST BE "RELOCATED" FAR AWAY. IN 1976 ABOUT FIFTEEN FAMILIES OF GIRLS WHO REFUSED TO MARRY WERE RELOCATED. BUT, IN FACT, THE KHMER ROUGE ESCORTS RETURNED THE NEXT DAY WITH ALL THEIR CLOTHES AND DISTRIBUTED THEM TO OTHERS. EVERYONE THOUGHT THAT THE FAMILIES WERE EXECUTED. BEING "RELOCATED" FREQUENTLY MEANS BEING EXECUTED.

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8. EXECUTIONS QTE THE KHMER ROUGE HAVE EXECUTED ALL THE FORMER SOLDIERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THEY CAN IDENTIFY. THEY ALSO FORCIBLY RELOCATED THE FAMILIES OF FORMER SOLDIERS. I KNEW OF ABOUT FIFTY FAMILIES OF FORMER SOLDIERS WHO WERE SENT TO THE NORTHERN DISTRICT, BUT EVERYONE THINKS THEY WERE ALSO EXECUTED.

9. QTE IN 1978, THE KHMER ROUGE STARTED EXECUTING FORMER STUDENTS, FORMER MEMBERS OF VILLAGE DEFENSE FORCES, OR FORMER MILITIAMEN. THEY STARTED WITH THE LEADERS AND WITH THOSE WHO STUDIED TO HIGHER GRADES. IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, ABOUT TWENTY STUDENTS, WHO HAD STUDIED FIVE YEARS OR MORE AND HAD THEN BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE MOBILE YOUTH, AND ABOUT THIRTY FORMER MILITIAMEN WERE EXECUTED. I KNOW OF THIRTEEN YOUNG MEN, SOME OF WHOM WERE MY FRIENDS, WHO WERE KILLED. THE KHMER ROUGE TIED THEIR HANDS BEHIND THEM AND TOOK THEM TO THE FORESTS. THE NEXT DAY I SAW 13 FRESH MOUNDS. NO ONE KNEW OF ANY REASON WHY THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED EXCEPT THAT THEY WERE FORMER STUDENTS.

10. QTE THE WORST CRIME IS CRITICIZING THE WAY PEOPLE ARE BEING TREATED AND ADMINISTERED. IF YOU DO SO, THE KHMER ROUGE SAY, "YOU ARE A BAD ELEMENT" AND "DO NOT SUPPORT  
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ANGKA". IF THEY WANT TO KILL ANYONE, THE KHMER ROUGE MERELY SAY, "YOU ARE SUPPORTING THE ENEMY." OR "YOU ARE GIVING FOOD TO THE ENEMY," OR "YOU HID WEAPONS AND ARE PREPARING TO MAKE REVOLUTION," OR "YOU ARE A SPY."

THESE ARE ONLY PRETEXTS. THESE CHARGES ARE MADE EITHER BEFORE YOU ARE EXECUTED OR AFTERWARD. BEFORE KILLING STUDENTS, THERE WERE USUALLY NO MEETINGS. THE KHMER ROUGE WOULD JUST ROUND UP TEN OR SO AND TAKE THEM AWAY.

11. QTE IN KOUKMON NOW THERE ARE ONLY ONE FOURTH AS MANY MEN AS WOMEN. THERE ARE MANY, MANY WIDOWS. IN 1975 THERE WERE 2500 PEOPLE IN MY VILLAGE. THERE ARE ONLY 1500 NOW. MORE THAN 250 WERE KILLED; OTHERS FLED TO THAILAND. OTHERS WERE ASSIGNED TO THE MOBILE YOUTH GROUPS.

12. QTE THERE WERE NOT MANY CHINESE IN MY VILLAGE, ONLY THREE FAMILIES. THEY WERE ALL KILLED IN 1978. FRIENDS FROM OTHER VILLAGES TOLD ME THE SAME THING, THAT MANY CHINESE FAMILIES WERE EXECUTED IN JANUARY, 1978. THE KHMER ROUGE SAID, "THE CHINESE USED TO EXPLOIT THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE."

13. QTE I HAD TWO COUSINS KILLED IN 1978. THEY WERE CHHUM BU, ABOUT 50, AND SIN SOK, ABOUT 45. AFTER THEY WERE EXECUTED, THEIR FAMILIES WERE TAKEN AWAY TO BE "RELOCATED." WE BELIEVE THAT ALL ELEVEN MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES WERE ALSO EXECUTED. THERE WERE ABOUT 60 FAMILIES "RELOCATED" SINCE 1975.

14. HUMAN, CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS QTE THERE ARE NO RIGHTS OR FREEDOMS IN CAMBODIA. THE KHMER ROUGE HAVE CLAMPED DOWN ON EVERY FACET OF LIFE. THE CENTRAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENT'S POLICY IS TO EXTERMINATE ALL THE OLD PEOPLE TO HAVE A NEW GENERATION OF CAMBODIANS WHO HAVE NEVER KNOWN A GOOD LIFE. THEIR POLICY CAN BE COMPARED TO BURINING A FIELD OF GRASS SO THAT NEW GRASS CAN REPLACE THE OLD. THEY ARE SUCCEEDING VERY WELL BECAUSE THEY ARE KILLING EVERYBODY.

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## Message Attributes

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